

**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION**

[005] The invention solves this problem by a circuit arrangement ~~having the features of claim 1~~ a capacitive sensor element, whose capacitance changes as a function of said operating state. The circuit includes a central capacitor, a first controllable connecting means which, as a function of a triggering signal, supplies a charging voltage to said capacitive sensor element, and a second controllable connecting means, which, as a function of said triggering signal, connects said capacitive sensor element to said central capacitor for a transfer of charge from said capacitive sensor element to said central capacitor. The charging voltage is an AC voltage and the AC voltage is supplied to the connecting means as the triggering signal in such a way that, in alternating manner, the first connecting means or the second connecting means is conductive. Advantageous and preferred developments of the invention ~~form the subject matter of the further claims and~~ will be further explained hereinafter. By express reference the wording of the claims is made into part of the content of the description.